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Quadrennial reports, 1994–1997, submitted through the Secretary-General pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31

Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

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1. Richmond Fellowship International

(Special consultative status granted 1989)

Brief introductory statement recalling the aims and purposes of the organization

The aim of the Richmond Fellowship International is to promote good community-care practice in the field of mental health. To this end it has established a worldwide network of self-governing, non-profit organizations which share a philosophy and common aims and which are bound to uphold those aims through affiliation agreements.

Most of these organizations run programmes based on the Richmond Fellowship International's model of therapeutic community, either in halfway houses or in day care. They are in Australia (in six states), Austria, Bangladesh, Barbados, Bolivia, Canada, Costa Rica, France, Ghana, Grenada, Hong Kong (China), India, Israel, Jamaica, Macau, Malta, Mexico, Nepal, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, Uruguay, United States of America (three states) and Zimbabwe.

Since the last report, Bolivia, Macau, Nepal, Pakistan and Ukraine have been added to the countries where organizations have entered into affiliation with RFI.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings

RFI was represented at the 39th and 40th sessions of the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs in April 1996 and December 1997, respectively. At the 39th session, the Chief Executive Officer of RFI made an oral statement and at the 40th session a representative distributed a written statement. Both are attached. The main purpose of attending the 39th session was to strengthen cooperation between RFI and the United Nations in the field of drug demand reduction and the purpose of attending the 40th session was to be present at the debate on the draft declaration on the guiding principles of demand reduction and to participate in the preparations for the twentieth special session of the General Assembly on drugs, which was held from 8 to 10 June 1998, to which the representative of RFI to the United Nations was accredited.

Cooperation with United Nations programmes and bodies and specialized agencies

RFI entered into working relations with the World Health Organization (WHO) in 1989 and prepared an application for official relations in accordance with the "Principles governing relations between the World Health Organization and non-governmental organizations". The basis of this application is the relevance of RFI's activities to the "Global Strategy for Health" and the general programme of work of WHO.

Other relevant activities

Action in implementation of United Nations resolutions

The chief United Nations instruments which were supported by RFI during the reporting period were:

(a) The Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities. RFI took part in the discussions which led to the formulation of these Rules and has taken every opportunity to campaign for the inclusion of mental illness as a disability.

(b) General Assembly resolution S/17-2 of 23 February 1990, which consisted of a Political Declaration and Global Programme of Action. Paragraphs 9 to 37 of the Declaration address issues related to the prevention and reduction of drug abuse with a view to elimination of the illicit demand for narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and to the treatment, rehabilitation and social reintegration of drug abusers. RFI undertook activities in this field during the period under review in Bolivia, Grenada, Nepal, Trinidad and Tobago and Peru and made preparations for similar activities in Dominica and Paraguay.

(c) Articles 38 and 39 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child concern the protection, rehabilitation and social reintegration of child victims of violence. In this regard, RFI has, in collaboration with the European Commission, created residential programmes for children who are victims of domestic violence in Costa Rica and for street children in Nepal and Peru.

Consultations and cooperation with officials of the United Nations Secretariat

Representatives of RFI have been regularly appointed to the offices of the United Nations in New York, Geneva and Vienna.

Other examples of consultative and substantive activities

RFI has had close consultation with the Division of Mental Health and Prevention of Substance Abuse of the World Health Organization in Geneva, the Division of Health Promotion and Protection of the Pan American Health Organization (the Regional Office of the World Health Organization), and the representatives of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme for Bolivia, the Caribbean region, India and Nepal.

2. Robert F. Kennedy Memorial

(Special consultative status granted 1993)

Introduction

The Robert F. Kennedy Memorial (RFK Memorial) seeks to promote respect for justice, human rights and the rule of law. It works to accomplish these aims through several programmes. The RFK Book and Journalism Awards recognize authors and journalists, print and broadcast, whose work reflects Robert Kennedy's "concern for the poor and powerless, his struggle for honest and even-handed justice". The RFK National Youth Project works to empower youth in American cities as leaders of their communities and encourages them to cooperate to reduce violence in their neighbourhoods. The RFK Human Rights Award honours individuals who stand up to oppression in the non-violent pursuit of respect for human rights.

The RFK Memorial Centre for Human Rights (the RFK Centre) carries out projects that support, complement or enhance the human rights work of the RFK Human Rights Award laureates and promote respect for human rights in their countries. The RFK Centre investigates and publishes reports on human rights conditions and campaigns to heighten awareness of these issues and to stop abuses, and encourages Governments, international organizations and corporations to adopt policies that ensure respect for international human rights. Through its relationships with the Award laureates, the organizations with which they are affiliated and other activists in their countries, the RFK Centre strives to enhance their capacity, to help marshal the resources necessary for them to work more effectively, to increase the impact of their work and to share the lessons from their experience with the international human rights community.

The RFK Memorial is not a membership organization. It has an International Advisory Committee, currently composed of 70 members from throughout the world, who nominate candidates for the RFK Human Rights Award. The continents and countries represented by International Advisory Committee members are:

Africa: Ghana, Kenya, Senegal, South Africa, Zimbabwe; *Americas*: Argentina, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, United States of America; *Asia and the Middle East*: Cambodia, India, Israel, the Occupied Palestinian Territories, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka; *Europe*: Czech Republic, Finland, France, Netherlands, Poland, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; *Other*: Australia.

For the Memorial's human rights work, its core constituency is made up of the RFK Human Rights Award laureates, with whom the Centre develops a close, collaborative relationship. The continents and countries of the Award laureates are:

Africa: Kenya, Malawi, South Africa, the Sudan; *Americas*: El Salvador, Guatemala; *Asia and the Middle East*: China, India, Indonesia, Israel, the Occupied Palestinian Territories, Republic of Korea, Viet Nam; *Europe*: Poland, Turkey.

There have been no substantial changes in the Memorial's funding sources. It continues to receive the bulk of its support from private contributions and fundraising events. It also receives support from foundations. The domestic National Youth Project has received grants from the American Government for its work. The RFK Centre does not accept government funding for its work. It did receive a grant of $8,000 in 1997 from the United States Agency for International Development; the entire amount directly supported an internship that the RFK Centre organized in the United States for a young Haitian attorney who manages the Guy Malary Law Library, which the RFK Centre helped to establish within Haiti's National Library.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and other United Nations activities

The RFK Memorial has participated each year since 1994 in the annual sessions of the United Nations Commission for Human Rights. The RFK Memorial presented the following statements at or in conjunction with those sessions:

Commission on Human Rights, fiftieth session, 1994

Oral statement on human rights violations and national security laws.

Commission on Human Rights, fifty-first session, 1995

Written statement on the draft declaration on human rights defenders, submitted to the pre-sessional working group on the draft declaration on human rights defenders;

Oral statement on human rights violations and national security laws;

Oral statement on United Nations advisory services and human rights monitoring.

Commission on Human Rights, fifty-second session, 1996

Written statement on human rights violations and national security laws.

The RFK Centre also participated in the Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing from 4 to 15 September 1995. The RFK Centre presented two workshops for the Non-Governmental Organization Forum participants on international advocacy of human rights, particularly women's rights. The Centre worked before and during the Conference to enhance the participation of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the Conference and prepared a report detailing problems encountered at the Women's Conference and the NGO Forum and recommending steps for the United Nations and Governments to take to assure enhanced NGO participation in future United Nations meetings.

Cooperation with United Nations programmes, bodies and specialized agencies and other relevant activities

The RFK Centre has cooperated with a number of the special procedures of the Commission on Human Rights. The RFK Centre has submitted three cases concerning Chinese prisoners to the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, which communicated two of these cases to the Government of the People's Republic of China as urgent appeals. The RFK Centre has also provided reports and other information regarding human rights issues in China, Guatemala, Kenya, Indonesia and the Occupied Palestinian Territories to the Special Rapporteur on freedom of opinion and expression, the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers, the Independent expert on the situation of human rights in Guatemala and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian Territories occupied since 1967.

In 1995 and 1996, while the RFK Centre was carrying out research for the 1996 report, *Civil Patrols and their Legacy, Overcoming Militarization and Polarization in the Guatemalan Countryside*, the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala (MINUGUA) provided invaluable assistance and advice. The RFK Centre has continued to cooperate with MINUGUA.

The United Nations Centre for Human Rights office in Malawi provided assistance and some funding for the conference, "Understanding the Past to Safeguard the Future", organized by the University of Malawi and the RFK Centre, in Lilongwe, Malawi, in October 1996. As a result of the Centre for Human Rights' assistance, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, Bacre Waly N'diaye, participated in the conference. Following the conference, the representative of the Centre, Mr. N'diaye and the RFK Centre participated in a half-day meeting with the entire Malawi National Compensation Tribunal in Blantyre.

The RFK Centre has also consulted extensively with the United Nations International Civilian Mission in Haiti (MICIVIH) on the Centre-initiated project that led to the establishment of the Guy Malary Law Library in Port-au-Prince.

3. Rotary International (RI)

(General consultative status granted 1947)

Introductory statement

Founded in 1905, Rotary International (RI) is the global network of more than 28,000 Rotary clubs in 159 countries and 35 geographical regions. These clubs work to improve the quality of life for people around the world through volunteer projects initiated at the grass-roots, community level. Rotary clubs are comprised of a cross-section of business and professional leaders in their communities, bringing a broad spectrum of resources to local and global needs. RI has held category I (now general) consultative status with the Economic and Social Council since 1993. RI also maintains official relations with the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS).

Since 31 December 1993, the number of Rotary clubs worldwide has increased from 26,681 to 28,531, with total membership close to 1.2 million. The Rotary clubs were established in the following countries and geographical areas: Armenia; Belarus, Eritrea, Georgia; Kazakhstan; the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; the Republic of Moldova; Mongolia; Palau; and Yugoslavia, in addition to Antarctica and the Turks and Caicos Islands; and the Providencia Island.

The President of RI annually appoints volunteer representatives to major intergovernmental organizations. Their numbers have expanded dramatically. In 1990, there were only two representatives to the United Nations Headquarters and one each to the United Nations Offices at Geneva and Vienna. Currently, there are 14 RI representatives as follows: United Nations Headquarters (4), United Nations Office at Geneva (2), United Nations Office at Vienna (1); UNESCO/Paris (2); Council of Europe/Strasbourg (1); FAO/Rome (1); World Bank/Organization of American States/Washington, D.C. (1); UNEP/UNCHS/Nairobi (1); and Organization of African Unity/Addis Ababa (1). Representatives monitor activities, identify opportunities for joint projects with United Nations agencies and serve as chairpersons or members of at least 10 committees of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations and the UNICEF NGO Committee.

Rotary International participation in events organized within the United Nations system

RI presented written and/or oral statements at the following United Nations conferences and events:*

World Summit for Children, New York, September 1990;

Celebration of Universal Child Immunization, New York, October 1991;

Habitat II, Istanbul, June 1996;*

World Food Summit, Rome, November 1996;

United Nations General Assembly session honouring the fiftieth anniversary of UNICEF, December 1996;

World Water Forum (UNESCO), Marrakech, March 1997;

United Nations General Assembly special session on the environment (Rio Plus Five) [RI presented President of General Assembly with the Rotary Ecological Marathon trophy] June 1997;*

UNESCO fifth International Conference on Adult Education, Hamburg, July 1997;*

WHO fourth International Conference on Health Promotion, Jakarta, July 1997;*

World Water Summit, Marrakech, March 1997;

Fiftieth United Nations/Department of Public Information/NGO conference (and 1996 conference), September 1997;

United Nations Commission on Social Development, February 1998;

United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, March 1998;

UNESCO International Literacy Institute forum, Dakar, March 1998;

UNESCO Second Regional NGO Meeting, Durban, April 1998;

United Nations General Assembly, twentieth special session on drug control, June 1998;*

RI representatives made three statements during the review of ECOSOC resolution 1296.

RI representatives regularly attend the World Health Assembly and Executive Board meeting of UNICEF, in addition to attending and reporting on:

World Forum on Drug Demand Reduction (United Nations), Bangkok, December 1994;

FAO Conference on Nutrition, Rome, December 1995;

UN International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, September 1994;

United Nations Department of Public Information/NGO conferences, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997;

World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 1995;

Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, September 1995;

UNICEF meeting on child survival, Accra, March 1997;

UNESCO education/literacy forum, Melbourne, March 1998.

* Indicates those events supported by on-site Rotary exhibits.

Examples of cooperation with the United Nations and the specialized agencies

Through its PolioPlus Program, Rotary works with WHO, UNICEF, bilateral agencies and national ministries of health in 118 countries to help eradicate polio. The effort is supported by hundreds of thousands of Rotary volunteers and a commitment of US$ 420 million through 2005. Two United Nations agencies have honoured RI for its work to eradicate polio: WHO awarded the Health for All Gold Medal to RI in May 1993; and the Pan American Health Organization gave RI the Macedo World Health Day Award in April 1995. In April 1994, the "Geneva Declaration for Poliomyelitis Eradication in Central and Eastern Europe", was jointly issued by RI, WHO, UNICEF and the Children's Vaccine Initiative.

RI encourages club service projects addressing a broad range of issues, parallel to those addressed by the United Nations community. These benefit people of all ages — children, young people, ageing, and women — and promote ecology, literacy, the family, clean water, sustainable development, revolving loan funds for health care, and HIV/AIDS awareness. Clubs also work to combat hunger and prevent drug abuse. In addition, the Rotary Foundation annually funds more than US $90 million in international educational and humanitarian programmes.

Examples of RI projects conducted in collaboration with a United Nations agency include: Haitian water wells project (UNICEF); Nigerian child spacing project (UNFPA); Salvadorian literacy programme (UNESCO); and Polish free enterprise training (UNDP).

RI awarded its highest honour, the Rotary Award for World Understanding, to Secretary-General of the United Nations Javier Pérez de Cuéllar (June 1991); to the late James Grant, Executive Director of UNICEF (June 1995) [UNICEF used the $100,000 award for immunization in Egypt]; to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Sadako Ogato (June 1996) [UNHCR used the award to support environmental education activities in refugee camps in Kenya, Tanzania, Ethiopia and Uganda.].

RI promotes and collaborates with United Nations agencies through other activities such as:

Co-promotion with WHO of the 1995 campaign, "Target 2000, a world without polio";

RI conference at UNESCO, Paris, honouring the agency's fiftieth anniversary, November 1996;

RI/UNESCO Memorandum of Understanding, June 1997;

RI/Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS joint statement, XI International Conference on AIDS, Vancouver, July 1996.

Other relevant activities

Top United Nations officials participated in Rotary conferences on the United Nations system in Geneva (April 1994); San Francisco (June 1995); Independence, Missouri, United States of America (June 1995); New York (with United Nations Secretary-General in October 1995); and regularly address RI's annual conventions.

RI promotes the United Nations, its priorities and programmes at its meetings and in its publications:

RI conference celebrates UNICEF's fiftieth anniversary, Buenos Aires, December 1996;

Rotary Foundation conference features United Nations system speakers, March 1997;

World Water Congress, Rotary International statement and display, Montreal, September 1997;

International Literacy Day, statement, World Bank, Washington, D.C.;

RI conference features United Nations speakers, Addis Ababa, November 1997;

"Advancing Children's Futures", National Committee for the Rights of the Child, oral statement, Indianapolis, November 1997;

Commission on Sustainable Development, RI submitted papers on water and nominated two Rotary projects as best practice examples, April 1998;

RI has established official relationships with regional intergovernmental organizations: Council of Europe (July 1995); Organization of African Unity (August 1997); and Organization of American States (November 1997);

United Nations agency staff will participate in the first gathering of all RI representatives in Evanston, Illinois, United States of America, July 1998.

4. Socialist International Women (SIW)

(Special consultative status granted 1995)

Socialist International Women (SIW), founded in 1907, is the international organization of the women's

organizations of the socialist, social democratic and labour parties. Its aims and objectives are to promote action programmes to overcome any discrimination against women in society, including inequality between men and women and to work for human rights in general, development and peace. There are currently 121 member organizations in all parts of the world. Since 1994, 35 new member parties have joined SIW and their women's organizations have become members of SIW.

SIW has permanent representatives at the United Nations specialized agencies in New York, Geneva and Vienna who attend meetings of United Nations organizations on a regular basis.

In September 1994, SIW focused its attention on the United Nations Conference on Population and Development in Cairo, the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women Preparatory Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean in Mar del Plata, the regional Preparatory Committee for Europe and North America in Vienna, in October 1994, and the Preparatory Committee for Africa in Dakar, in November 1994. Members of several SIW member organizations were included in government delegations to the United Nations Conference on Population and Development. SIW was also represented at the Preparatory Committees for the World Summit on Social Development which were held in New York, in August and September 1994, and in Manila, in October 1994.

In March and October 1994, SIW attended the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations Board meetings in Geneva to which it had been elected in 1991.

In April 1994, SIW was represented at the meeting of the Special Committee of International NGOs on Human Rights in Geneva. In November, SIW was represented at the nineteenth General Assembly of the Conference on Non-Governmental Organizations in Geneva.

In March 1995, SIW attended the World Summit on Social Development in Copenhagen where representatives of several SIW member organizations were included in their government delegations. In September, SIW held a successful workshop at the NGO Forum of the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing. In addition, numerous representatives of SIW member organizations headed or were included in their government delegations to the World Conference on Women in Beijing.

In April and October 1994, SIW was represented at the meetings of the International NGO Committee on Human Rights in Geneva. In December, SIW was represented at the NGOs and human rights round table in Geneva.

In 1996, SIW was represented at the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) in Istanbul in June and at the third session of its Preparatory Committee in New York in February.

SIW was very honoured that Dr. Nafis Sadik, Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) addressed its XVI Conference, which was held at United Nations Headquarters in New York in September 1996.

In January and June 1996, SIW was represented at the meetings of the Special Committee of International NGOs on Human Rights in Geneva.

In March and April 1997, SIW was represented at the fifty-third session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in Geneva. In August, SIW was represented at a meeting of the United Nations Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities in Geneva. In December, SIW was represented at the meeting of the Special Committee of International NGOs on Human Rights in Geneva.

SIW also attended a meeting on gender mainstreaming organized by a gender specialist of UNDP in New York.

5. Society for Threatened Peoples

(Special consultative status granted 1993)

Introduction

The Society for Threatened Peoples is an international human rights organization with national sections in Germany (approx. 7,200 members), Luxembourg (approx. 120 members), Italy (approx. 20 members), South-Tyrol (150 members), Austria (approx. 600 members). Switzerland (approx. 800 members) and Bosnia and Herzegovina (approx. 200 members). The main focus of our work is the fight against genocide and discrimination against cultures, languages and religions of threatened minorities and nationalities through the use of press releases, conferences, vigils, talks with parliamentarians and politicians. We make information available for the media and try to attract the attention of the international public. Our archive has directories on several hundred threatened groups and minorities; it is one of the largest documentation centres of this kind in Europe.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings

1994

Commission on Human Rights — Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities — Working Group on Indigenous Populations, 18 to 29 July 1994, Geneva (12 persons)

Commission on Human Rights — Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, forty-sixth session 1 to 26 August 1994, Geneva (2 persons)

One oral statement on the situation of the Kanaka Maoli, Hawaii

International Conference on Population and Development, 5 to 13 September 1994, Cairo (1 person)

1995

Preparatory Committee for the World Summit for Social Development, third session, 16 to 27 January 1995, New York (3 persons)

Commission on Human Rights, fifty-first session, 30 January to 10 March 1995, Geneva (25 persons)

Oral statement on the struggle for self-determination of the Nagas (India)

Oral statement on the human rights situation in Tibet (China)

Oral statement on the human rights situation in Chechnya (Russian Federation)

Written statement on the human rights situation in Tibet (China)

World Summit for Social Development, 6 to 12 March 1995, Copenhagen (3 persons)

Commission on Narcotic Drugs, thirty-eighth session, 14 to 23 March 1995, Vienna (2 persons)

Oral statement on the meaning of the traditional cultivation of cocoa for the indigenous population in Bolivia

Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, 28 March to 7 April 1995, Berlin (2 persons)

Economic and Social Council, substantive session, 6 June to 28 July 1995, Geneva (1 person)

Commission on Human Rights — Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, forty-seventh session, 31 July to 25 August 1995, Geneva (20 persons)

Oral statement on the struggle for self-determination of the Nagas (India)

Oral statement on the human rights situation in Chechnya (Russian Federation)

Oral statement on the human rights situation of the Crimean Tartars (Russian Federation)

Oral statement on the human rights situation in Tibet (China)

Oral statement on the human rights situation of the Chittagong Hill People (India)

Oral statement on the human rights violations against the Ogoni People (Nigeria)

Commission on Human Rights — Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities — Working Group on Indigenous Populations, 17 to 28 July 1995, Geneva (8 persons)

1996

Commission on Human Rights, fifty-second session, 18 March to 26 April 1996, Geneva (20 persons)

Oral statement on freedom of religion in Tibet (China, item 18)

Oral statement on the human rights situation in Chechnya (Russian Federation, item 10)

Oral statement on the self-determination of indigenous people in general (item 7)

Oral statement on the draft declaration on rights of indigenous peoples

Commission on Narcotic Drugs, thirty-ninth session, 16 to 25 April 1996, Vienna (2 persons)

Oral statement on the theme "Cocoa cultivation, international agreements and anti-drug legislation" (Bolivia)

Commission on Human Rights — Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, forty-eighth session, July/August 1996 (4 weeks), Geneva (10 persons)

Oral statement on the human rights situation in Tibet (China)

Oral statement on the struggle for self-determination of the Nagas (India)

Written statement on the human rights situation in Tibet (China)

Commission on Human Rights — Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities — Working Group on Indigenous Populations, fourteenth session, July 1996 (1 week), Geneva (30 persons)

Oral statement on the situation of the indigenous minorities in India in general

1997

Commission on Human Rights, fifty-third session, 10 March to 18 April 1997, Geneva (26 persons)

Oral statement on the human rights situation in Tibet (China)

Oral statement on the struggle for self-determination of the Nagas (India)

Oral statement on the human rights situation in Bougainville (Indonesia)

Oral statement on the human rights situation in Assam (India)

Oral statement on the human rights situation of the Caucasian minority (Russian Federation)

Oral statement on the human rights situation in Nagomo-Bergkarabach

Written statement on the human rights situation in Tibet

Commission on Narcotic Drugs, fortieth session, 18 to 27 March 1997, Vienna (2 persons)

Oral statement on the meaning of the traditional cultivation of cocoa for the indigenous population in Columbia

Commission on Narcotic Drugs acting as Preparatory Body for the twentieth special session of the United Nations General Assembly devoted to the fight against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities, first meeting, 26 and 27 March 1997, Vienna (2 persons)

Commission on Human Rights — Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities — Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, 20 to 29 May 1997, Geneva (1 person)

Commission on Narcotic Drugs acting as Preparatory Body for the twentieth special session of the United Nations General Assembly devoted to the fight against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities, first informal open-ended meeting, 7 to 9 July 1997, Vienna (3 persons)

Oral statement on the theme "Biodiversity and the politics of drugs"

Commission on Human Rights — Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, forty-ninth session, 4 to 29 August 1997, Geneva (21 persons)

Oral statement on the situation of the indigenous people in India

Oral statement on the human rights situation of the South Molukkans (Indonesia)

Oral statement on the struggle for self-determination of the Nagas (India)

Two oral statements on the human rights situation in Tibet

Written statement on the question of freedom of religion in Tibet (China, item 11)

Commission on Human Rights — Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities — Working Group on Indigenous Populations, 28 July to 1 August 1997, Geneva (9 persons)

Commission on Narcotic Drugs acting as Preparatory Body for the twentieth special session of the United Nations General Assembly devoted to the fight against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities, second informal open-ended meeting, 7 to 9 October 1997, Vienna (3 persons)

Oral Statement on the theme "Human rights and drug politics in Peru"

Human Rights Committee — Intersessional Working Group on a Draft Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 27 October to 7 November 1997 (7 persons)

Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change — seventh session of the subsidiary body for implementation, 20 to 29 October 1997, Bonn (3 persons)

Commission on Narcotic Drugs acting as Preparatory Body for the twentieth special session of the United Nations General Assembly devoted to the fight against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities, third informal open-ended meeting, 3 to 5 December 1997, Vienna (3 persons)

Oral statement on the theme "Drugs and alternative development in Columbia"

Other relevant activities

Activities of the Society for Threatened Peoples in relation to the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People:

Events marking the opening of the International Decade in Bonn and Berlin in December 1994, including reception by the President of the German Parliament, the organization of a press conference as well as a podium discussion.

Political and financial support of the self-organization of the Adivasi indigenous group, advising the Adivasi representatives at the United Nations in Geneva (at the session of the Commission on Human Rights).

Campaign for the ratification of ILO Convention 169 by Germany and other Western European States.

6. Susila Dharma International Association

(Special consultative status granted 1989)

Introductory statement

Susila Dharma International Association is a non-profit organization, which has been in existence since 1969 and is registered as a charity in the United States of America. Susila Dharma International fosters development and cooperation by supporting national development organizations and locally initiated projects in 35 countries. These national organizations and projects form the membership of Susila Dharma International (SDI). SDI does not direct the activities of its members, but facilitates their work through a series of programmes. Together with its members, Susila Dharma International's purpose is to relieve poverty, encourage sustainable development and support human beings in realizing their potential. Individuals, enterprises, foundations and non-governmental organizations provide funding for SDI, which is affiliated to the World Subud* Association.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiaries

Conferences and meetings attended by volunteers:

- World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 1995
- World Summit on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 1996

Meetings in Geneva:

Substantive session of the Economic and Social Council, 1997

Commission on Human rights, annual sessions 1995, 1996 and 1997

Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, annual sessions 1995, 1996, 1997

Subcommission's Working Group on Indigenous Populations: 1995, 1996, 1997

Conferences organized by the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development such as "Globalization and Citizenship" (1996) and "Advancing the Social Agenda: two years after Copenhagen" (1997)

Conference of NGOs in consultative status with the United Nations: 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997

Special Committee of International NGOs on Human Rights: 1996, 1997

Special NGO Committee on Development: 1996, 1997

UNICEF NGO Group on Values: 1996

Cooperation with United Nations programmes

World Health Organization (WHO): The International Child Development Programme (ICDP) from Norway has worked with WHO to implement its work with traumatized children in Brazil, Italy, South Africa, India, Jamaica, Democratic Republic of Congo and Colombia.

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR): The Refugees Assistance Programme based in Norway works in consultation with UNHCR.

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF): In 1996 UNICEF sponsored an international child development programme training seminar in Bosnia and

* Subud is a spiritual and humanitarian movement active in 72 countries. Members of Subud belong to all races, creeds and religions and are united in a simple exercise and worship of God, which benefits their inner and outer lives equally

Herzegovina with participants from Mostar, Zenica, Sarajevo and Tuzla.

The Consortium for Street Children and UNICEF were the sponsors of a Conference for Street Children, held in Jakarta in September 1996, which was initiated by members of the International Child Development Programme — British team, and organized with the Indonesian National Council of Social Welfare and the Coordinating Board of Social Welfare Activities Yogyakarta.

Susila Dharma Germany assisted in the organization of the UNICEF conference on art therapy in Berlin, October 1994.

United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO): Representatives of Susila Dharma International met with a UNESCO NGO Liaison Officer April 1997 to discuss mutual cooperation.

Microcredit agenda: Susila Dharma International participated in the Microcredit Summit in February 1997 and is a member of the Council of NGOs promoting the creation of microcredit programmes.

Other relevant activities

Development Education: Susila Dharma International has published and distributed seven newsletters on the activities of the United Nations. Workshops and promotional displays about the United Nations were held in Spain and the United States of America.

Convention on the Rights of the Child: Susila Dharma Canada is represented on the National Coalition on the Rights of the Child.

7. Union of International Associations

(Special consultative status granted 1951)

Aims/Purpose:

To facilitate the evolution of the worldwide network of non-profit organizations, especially non-governmental or voluntary organizations. To promote understanding of how international bodies, whether governmental or non-governmental, represent valid interests in every field of human activity or belief. To enable these initiatives to develop and counterbalance each other creatively in response to world problems by collecting information on these bodies and their relationships in more meaningful ways.

Membership:

One hundred and thirty-five individuals (professors of international relations, diplomats, association executives, etc.) from 37 countries. Funding: Principal source of funding is sale of publications concerning international organizations. Other sources: In 1994, funds were received from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) under contract. During the period from 1994 to 1996, funding was received from the Agence de la Francophonie. In 1996 a preliminary contract was concluded with the European Commission and extended in 1997 for a two-year period.

Participation at meetings of the Economic and Social Council, subsidiary bodies or other United Nations meetings:

Represented at United Nations meetings in New York and Geneva relating to non-governmental organization matters.

Cooperation with other United Nations programmes, bodies and agencies:

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization:

Contracted by UNESCO during 1994–1995 to act as coordinator for the major evaluation of the cooperation between UNESCO and non-governmental organizations.

Pursuant to contacts with Directors-General of UNESCO since the 1970s, negotiations have been under way with UNESCO since 1996 with regard to further collaboration in relation to the *Encyclopaedia of World Problems and Human Potential*.

Presentation of a paper, *Transdisciplinarity as the Emergence of Patterned Experience*, to the UNESCO-sponsored first World Congress on Transdisciplinarity (Arrabida, 1994).

Report of a UNESCO-sponsored conference eco-villages and sustainable communities: models for twenty-first century living (Scotland, 1995) entitled *Gardening Sustainable Psycommunities*.

World Bank:

Presentation to a World Bank workshop on civil society in east/central Europe (1996) on *Interacting fruitfully with un-civil society: the dilemma for non-civil society organizations*.

United Nations University:

Participation in the Millennium Project organized by the American Council for the United Nations University. This is a worldwide effort to collect and synthesize judgements about emerging global issues and opportunities.

Other relevant activities:

Action in implementation of United Nations resolutions

Pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 334 B (XI), the Union of International Associations (UIA) continues to publish its *Yearbook of International Organizations*:

Book version: The publication (currently in its 35th edition) has now been extended from three to four volumes (totalling nearly 6,000 pages annually) consisting of: Volume 1: descriptions and multilingual index to over 20,000 international organizations (governmental and non-governmental) and to the 90,000 relationships between them. Volume 2: Participation of countries in international organizations (including over 129,000 membership links to individual countries). Volume 3: Classified subject guide to international organizations (over 2,000 categories). Volume 4: International organization bibliography and resources (covering publications of international organizations, concerning them and their issues).

CD-ROM version: The first edition on CD was prepared in 1995. The third edition in 1997 was developed into a multilingual form with special funding from the Agence de la Francophonie for a French version on the same CD. Many profiles were also translated into Spanish and German. There is access from a total of 13 languages. The contents have been expanded to cover 35,200 organizations with their relationships as active hyperlinks.

Web version: Since 1996, a Web site has been developed (totalling over 11,000 pages) that includes lists of international organizations, their Web sites, and profiles of selected international organizations. Further developments in this respect are planned for 1998.

Consultations and cooperation with Secretariat officials:

UIA has responded to occasional queries by Secretariat officials (from Geneva).

Preparation of requested papers

A report prepared under contract to the United Nations Department of Technical Cooperation for Development (Development Administration Division) on *Guiding Metaphors and Configuring Choices* (September 1991) was made available on the Web when funding constraints made it impossible for the United Nations to publish it as originally intended.

Other examples of consultative and substantive activities:

Registration of future international meetings: UIA continues its registration of future international meetings, notably including those planned by bodies within the United Nations system and by NGOs in consultation with the Economic and Social Council and the specialized agencies. Some 3,000 such meetings are published quarterly in the *International Congress Calendar* (38th year).

World problems: UIA has continued its programme, initiated in 1972, to collect information from international organizations, and notably from the United Nations and its specialized agencies, on the world problems with which they are concerned. The fourth edition of the *Encyclopaedia of World Problems and Human Potential* was published in 1994–1995.

Book version: The publication has been extended from 2 to 3 volumes (totalling 3,200 pages) consisting of: Volume 1: Profiles of 9,800 world problems and 120,000 relationships between them. Volume 2: Human potential (with sections on human development, integrative knowledge, metaphors, transformative approaches and human values). Volume 3: Profiles of 9,200 strategies and actions by international organizations. Problems and strategies described are in every field of human activity and include many only mentioned briefly in official reports, although highlighted in other special studies.

CD-ROM version: The first edition was produced in 1995. During 1996 a contract was concluded with the European Commission to explore further development of those aspects of the databases on problems and strategies relating to biodiversity. Further funding was received in 1997, for implementation during 1998–1999, when a new CD version is planned.

Web version: Extensive extracts from the problems and strategies databases have been made available in 1997. Most of the data will be made available on the Web during 1998 as part of the project funded by the European Commission. This will involve development of multimedia features to increase comprehensibility of the complex data structures. It will also involve an innovative process of user-participation, notably by international organizations, to improve the quality of the data and to reflect policy-relevant controversies in interpreting it.

Human potential: transformation and values: The 1994 edition of the above-mentioned *Encyclopaedia* includes six other sections on "human potential". These are: human values (3,254), human development concepts (1,407) and modes of awareness (3,049), integrative concepts, metaphors and patterns for social change and transformative approaches. Since the 1990–1993 quadrennium, extensive work has been done on human development and the use of metaphor as an unexplored communication resource of value in articulating more appropriate and sustainable approaches to the global problematique.

International organization strategies: Using material collected from international organizations and published during the 1986–1989 quadrennium, work was initiated in 1993 on the third, additional, volume to the above-mentioned *Encyclopaedia*, published in 1995. This focuses on the many strategies employed by international organizations in response to world problems. This links the *Encyclopaedia* more closely to the organizations profiled in the *Yearbook of International Organizations* (see above) and in the Web version these links already take the form of hyperlinks.

Visualization of organization, problem and strategy networks: UIA continues to experiment with visualization of complex networks of information in response to the challenge of information overload. Initial results appeared in the 1994 editions of the *Yearbook* and the *Encyclopaedia* and offer a unique perspective on the activities of the international community and notably the many units within the United Nations system. Current experiments, with funding from the European Commission, focus particularly on virtual reality techniques and were made accessible on the Web in 1997. These include new visual metaphors to understand organization complexes like the United Nations and the European union and provide direct hyperlinks to subsidiary Web sites.

8. Vienna Institute for Development and Cooperation

(Special consultative status granted 1974)

The main aim of the Vienna Institute for Development and Cooperation (VIDC) is to promote international understanding in general and North-South cooperation in particular. In pursuing these goals, the Institute has been assisting in the North-South dialogue process, mainly through the organization of international conferences and lectures, by its own research activities, as well as by its participation in various public relation campaigns. Over the current reporting period, VIDC has also increasingly engaged in cultural exchange programmes between North and South. In addition, it is also active in promoting and implementing particular development projects in the South.

Facilitated by Austria's membership in the European Union, VIDC has increasingly been able to receive additional, and at times substantial, project-funding from the European Commission.

The organization's representative attended meetings observing the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People in 1994, 1995, 1996 and 1997 (all at the United Nations Office at Vienna).

The organization's representative attended the NGO-Forum of the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, September 1995).

The organization's representative attended two of the preparatory meetings for the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) (Nairobi, 24 April–5 May 1995; New York, 5 to 16 February 1996), as well as the Conference itself (Istanbul, 3 to 14 June 1996). The representative was part of the official Austrian delegation, but also participated in NGO activities.

The organization's representative attended the fortieth session of the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs (Vienna, 18 to 25 March 1997). In addition, the representative also attended the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the twentieth special session of the General Assembly to consider the fight against the illicit production, sale, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances (Vienna, 26 and 27 March 1997).

Following the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, in particular Agenda 21, VIDC, in close cooperation with indigenous populations and their organizations, has planned and implemented a series of projects intended to protect rainforests. With the financial support of the Austrian Government, VIDC carried out the following projects during the period 1974 to 1997:

(a) Land-demarcation for the Ticuna (Brazil);

(b) Land-demarcation for the Arawete (Brazil);

(c) Land-demarcation and legal services for the Kuna Yala (Panama);

(d) Land-demarcation for the Embera (Panama);

(e) Development of non-forest products in Palawan (Philippines).

Following the recommendations of the Fourth World Conference on Women, VIDC had asked researchers to undertake a series of studies on the role of women in development. Based upon these studies and their recommendations, the Austrian Development Cooperation Administration has issued guidelines to make gender a key issue in Austrian official development assistance. A booklet "Women on their way to empowerment: Challenges for Austrian Development Cooperation: Basic issues and project examples" was published by VIDC and widely distributed.

Following the recommendations of Habitat II, VIDC has undertaken an analysis of all the human settlement issues relevant for Austrian development cooperation. Proposals for policy guidelines were formulated and presented to the Austrian development community.

In accordance with the work on culture and development undertaken by UNESCO, VIDC organized, in the first half of 1996, a major cultural festival entitled "Sura za Afrika". The festival encompassed music, dance and theatre performances, a major exhibition of contemporary African art, an African market in the centre of Vienna, school-workshops and other youth activities, workshops on African politics, economics and science, literary readings, as well as media exchanges between Austrian and a number of African print media. The events during the festival were attended by some 200,000 visitors.

VIDC has also undertaken to organize and/or support cultural exchange projects between Austrian artists and artists of the South. It also undertakes ongoing cultural projects in Uganda, Zimbabwe and Cape Verde.

The VIDC organized an international seminar on industrialization, organization, innovation and institutions in the South at Vienna from 17 to 18 November 1994, which was attended by a number of high-ranking staff members of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization.

In 1996, VIDC organized the eighth General Conference of the European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes (Vienna, 11–14 September 1996). Key addresses were provided by representatives of the United Nations, including Mrs. Inge Kaul (UNDP), Mr. Richard Jolly (UNDP), and Mr. Dharam Ghai (United Nations Research Institute for Social Development).

VIDC organized a lecture by Mr. James G. Speth, Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (Vienna, 15 April 1997) on the theme "The Challenge for Sustainable Human Development in the Future: Building Good Governance".

9. Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

(Special consultative status granted 1948)

Introductory statement

The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) aims to bring together women of different political and philosophical beliefs united in their determination to study, make known and help abolish the causes and the concept of war; to work towards world peace through total and universal disarmament; the abolition of violence and coercion in the settlement of conflict and the substitution in each case of negotiation and conciliation; the strengthening of the United Nations and its specialized agencies and the institution of international law. To strive for political and social equality, for economic equity, for cooperation among all peoples and for sustainable development in a safe environment. WILPF seeks to educate, inform and mobilize women for action to achieve these goals. It works to promote specific United Nations resolutions and programmes and make the work of the United Nations known to its members and the general public.

We have national sections in all continents and an increase in international membership: new national sections have been formed in El Salvador, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republic of Korea.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conference and other United Nations meetings:

WILPF followed the annual sessions of the Economic and Social Council during the period covered by this report and its subsidiary bodies.

Commission on the Status of Women:

WILPF participated in all the Commission meetings from 1994 to 1997, focusing particularly on women and peace issues. We made written presentations to the following expert groups meetings organized by the Division on the Advancement of Women: The role of women in decision-making and conflict resolution, 1996, Gender-based persecution, Toronto 1997, Promotion of women's human rights, Turku, 1997.

Commission on Human Rights:

WILPF participated regularly in the sessions of the Commission on Human Rights and its subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities. It made the following oral statements to the Commission on Human Rights during the period from 1994 to 1997: three under item 4; four under items 5/6; two under item 9; two under item 10; three under item 11; four under item 12; one under item 14; one under item 16; one under item 22. In addition, WILPF supported a number of joint NGO statements under various items of the agenda and gave assistance to NGO representatives who came from afar to attend the sessions of the Commission, the Subcommission and its working groups. WILPF also participated regularly in the meetings of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and in informal consultations with members of the Committee. WILPF was invited by staff members of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to informal and formal consultations concerning the implementation of the human rights of migrants, of the right to development and of gender mainstreaming throughout the United Nations human rights mechanism.

World Summit on Social Development, Copenhagen 1995:

WILPF participated in the regional preparatory conferences and at the Summit itself. At the parallel NGO forum, we convened workshops on "The peace dividend and the women's budget", and on "Democratization for social development".

United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing 1995:

WILPF participated actively in the regional preparatory conferences in the different regions and at the Conference in Beijing, always with the main focus on the areas of peace. Recognizing that women from Eastern European Countries are underrepresented at international fora, WILPF organized a peace train from Helsinki to Beijing, meeting with women in St. Petersburg, Kiev, Bucharest, Sofia, Istanbul, Odessa and Almaty, bringing their voices to Beijing. On the NGO level, WILPF co-convened the peace tent at the NGO Forum in Beijing and the peace caucus, coordinating the NGO lobby work on peace. WILPF's Vice-President, from Sri Lanka, addressed the World Conference, drawing attention to the increasing role that women are playing in peace-building.

United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, Habitat II, Istanbul 1996:

We followed the preparatory conferences and attended the conference itself, with a special attention to the issues of housing for women and housing in war-torn cities.

Cooperation with United Nations programmes and bodies and the specialized agencies:

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization:

WILPF has five permanent representatives accredited, who follow the ongoing work of UNESCO. On the request of UNESCO's culture of peace programme, WILPF's international President presented in 1995 a comprehensive paper on "Elements of a culture of peace — A women's perspective".

The International Labour Organization:

We participated in the yearly International Labour Conference, intervening on the following issues: Women workers rights in South Africa, 1994; Gender and homework, 1995; Employment and trade liberalization, 1996; Effects of globalization on ILO's work, 1997. WILPF participated in the tripartite meeting of experts on future ILO activities in the field of migration, underlining the specific needs of migrant women.

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations:

WILPF is following the general work through its permanent representative in Rome. We actively participated at the World Food Summit, November 1996 in Rome, with a focus on food security.

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees:

WILPF followed, as observers, the Executive Committee meetings in 1995, 1996 and 1997. We provided UNHCR with information on the situation of refugees from Myanmar in Thailand, 1997. We attended the 1997 steering group meeting for the follow-up to the Regional Conference to Address the Problems of Refugees, Displaced Persons, Other Forms of Involuntary Displacement and Returnees in the Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and Relevant Neighbouring States, underlining the importance of gender integration into the programme of action.

Security Council:

We monitor the work of the open-ended working group on the question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and other matters related to the Security Council. In 1996, WILPF started a worldwide educational grass-roots campaign on the democratization of the Security Council, organizing workshops, lectures and collecting signatures.

Other relevant activities:

Information and education about the United Nations:

As in previous periods, WILPF included in its annual Executive Committee meetings and its international congress in 1995 a special session on the work of the United Nations and its specialized agencies. The participants heard and discussed reports by the WILPF representatives. WILPF sections followed up by increasing their efforts to disseminate information on, promote and support the United Nations through more reporting of United Nations work in their bulletins and journals, writing letters and articles for publication in national and local media, speaking on local television and radio, organizing workshops on the United Nations local communities and requesting libraries to carry United Nations publications.

WILPF publishes the bi-monthly newsletter, *International Peace Update*, with a two-page column on "United Nations News". Parts of this English publication are translated into French, Spanish, Norwegian, Swedish, Japanese and Danish. Furthermore we regularly publish reports:

1994: Waiting for justice: The case of comfort women

1995: War and rape: Analytical approaches

1996: Conversion: An essential practical component for effective disarmament

1996: Search for peace in the Middle East: Missions, meetings, policies and actions by WILPF 1930–1996

1997: Human rights violations against women in armed conflict

1997: Nuclear disarmament: Strategies to achieve a nuclear free world.

WILPF continued its internship programme, which provides, each year, for two young women to work for 11 months at its international office in Geneva. The two programmes, in disarmament/development and in human rights, focus on United Nations efforts in those areas. In the period covered by this report, interns came from Australia, Canada, Colombia, Germany, Mexico, Senegal, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

WILPF encourages its members and friends to visit the United Nations in New York, Geneva and Vienna, and at regional offices. Annually, around 8 March — International Women's Day — WILPF with other NGOs bring women from different countries to the United Nations in Geneva to discuss issues of peace and disarmament dealt with by the Organization.

WILPF is an active member within the NGO community. It is a member of the board of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and, as such, participates actively in matters related to the NGO relationship with the Council and with other bodies of the United Nations. In Geneva it is represented on the secretariat for the NGO Subcommittee on Racism, Racial Discrimination and Decolonization and the secretariat for the special NGO Committee for Disarmament. In New York, WILPF is represented on the Publications Committee of *Disarmament Times* and contributes to the various NGO committees established by the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations.

10. Women's International Zionist Organization

(Special consultative status granted 1959)

Introductory statement

The Women's International Zionist Organization (WIZO) is an international voluntary movement of 300,000 women with federations in 52 countries. Since it was founded more than 75 years ago, it has provided services to children, women, families and society, regardless of their race or religious affiliation.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and or other United Nations meetings

During the past four years, WIZO multiplied its efforts to ensure implementation, both in spirit and in the letter, of the objectives of the United Nations forward-looking strategies and to fulfill the objectives of the Beijing Platform

for Action, to safeguard the full equality of women. WIZO has insisted on the creation of full and equal opportunities for women to develop their talents and creative abilities and to facilitate their involvement in the process of development. WIZO has promoted, throughout its federations, educational programmes of friendship and mutual cooperation and exchanges in the achievement of peace. In the past four years, a major concern for WIZO has been to develop services geared specifically to women in the throes of family violence through the creation of legal advice bureaux and shelters for battered women and their children. Towards the advancement of the status of women, WIZO opened additional day-care centres, pedagogic and therapeutic centres. WIZO also opened additional youth clubs, including some in Arab villages.

Cooperation with United Nations Programmes and bodies and the specialized agencies

Since its establishment, WIZO's main efforts have been dedicated to the welfare of children and adolescents. WIZO applauded the unanimous adoption by the General Assembly of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, especially the new rights that appear for the first time in an international human rights document, such as consideration of a child's ethnic, religious or linguistic heritage when providing alternative family care. WIZO federations have continued to actively support the work of UNICEF. WIZO organized seminars and other events to strengthen families in ways that increase equality, mutual respect and responsibilities, while taking into account and respecting existing family structures.

Other relevant activities

WIZO has set up the Committee for the Advancement of Women in Politics, the aim of which is to have more women involved in politics by encouraging them to stand for municipal elections.

Action in Implementation of United Nations resolutions: dissemination of information: WIZO encourages the dissemination of information on United Nations bodies among its federations. Visits and tours to the United Nations building have been organized throughout the years.

Consultations and cooperation with officials of the United Nations Secretariat: WIZO attendance at United Nations meetings in New York and Geneva: WIZO representatives have attended and/or held consultations with members of the following United Nations bodies or agencies:

Commission on the Status of Women, Vienna, New York;

Commission on Human Rights, Geneva;

Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, Geneva;

Third Committee sessions of the United Nations General Assembly;

Economic and Social Council sessions, New York, and Geneva;

UNICEF Executive Board meetings in New York.

WIZO representatives in New York, Geneva and Vienna regularly attend:

Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council;

Weekly briefings of the Department of Public Information for the non-governmental organization community in New York;

Meetings of the Non-Governmental Organizations Committee on UNICEF;

Non-Governmental Organizations committee on the United Nations Women's Decade, New York;

Annual conference of the Department of Public Information of the United Nations for Non-Governmental Organizations.

Consultative activities: 1994- 1997

Prior to the extended session of the United nations Commission on the Status of Women in New York, WIZO participated in all non-governmental organizations consultative meetings and also in the meetings of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women.

WIZO participated at the non-governmental organizations meetings in Beijing 1995, in Huairou, China, and in the fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, 1995.

In Huairou, China, (August–September 1995), WIZO organized five workshops on cooperation with international women's organizations such as the International Business and Professional Women and the International Alliance of Women.

These workshops were successful and focused on the following topics:

Aging;

Prevention of domestic violence;

Equality (Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women);

Voluntarism and empowering women through parenting education.

Regional meetings and conferences

1994 Nordic Forum, Turku, Finland;

Regional preparatory conference and the regional non-governmental organizations forum for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Mar del Plata, Argentina;

Regional non-governmental organizations forum for Europe, Vienna;

The European Council of WIZO Federations is represented at all meetings and sessions of the European Women's Lobby.

1995 WIZO is a member of the National Committees for UNICEF and participates in UNICEF fundraising campaigns;

WIZO was represented at the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen;

WIZO was represented by a large delegation at the Non-Governmental Organizations Forum and at the fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 1995.

1997 WIZO participated in the seventh United Nations regional conference (ECLAC) held in Santiago, Chile.

11. World Association of Former United Nations Internes and Fellows

(Special consultative status granted 1981)

The World Association of Former United Nations Internes and Fellows (WAFUNIF) has members in 147 countries and in all regions of the world. Its constitutional mandate and activities implemented since its creation, in 1978, are oriented to advancing the work of its Alma Mater, the United Nations system. WAFUNIF's aims and purposes are to: continue a channel of communication between the United Nations system and those whom it has served through its multiple internships and fellowships during more than half a century; use the collective and individual resources of its members to promote at all levels research, information and education to help improve public understanding of the principles, activities and potentialities of the United Nations; support and encourage the maintenance and further development of internships, fellowships and other types of training programmes within the United Nations system. Accordingly, WAFUNIF has historically supported the implementation of relevant resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and other intergovernmental bodies.

During the period under review (1990–1997), WAFUNIF participated in the work of ECOSOC and its subsidiary bodies as well as several United Nations conferences and other meetings through attendance and/or the submission of oral and/or written statements. Included among these are:

Oral presentation and a document to the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), twenty-third session, 3–11 May 1990, Caracas;

Oral statement and a document to the second United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries, 3–14 September 1990, Paris;

Oral and written presentations to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) Committee on the Transfer of Technology, eighth session, 22–30 April 1991, Geneva;

Oral and written submissions to the High-Level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation Among Developing Countries, seventh session, 28 May–6 June 1991, New York;

Oral and written presentations to the fifth international workshop on the transfer of knowledge through expatriate nationals (TOKTEN), 13–17 November 1991, Manila, jointly sponsored by the Government of the Philippines and the United Nations Development Programme. The research paper presented by WAFUNIF's President, at the request of the workshop's organizers, was entitled "The Challenges to TOKTEN in the 1990s: International cooperation aimed at redressing the negative developmental impact of the reverse transfer of technology on developing countries";

Participated in the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) second, third and fourth sessions (18 March–12 April and 12 August–4 September 1991, Geneva; 3 March–2 April 1991, New York, respectively). Oral and written statements submitted to the third session received encouraging response from several delegations

including the Netherlands, Sweden, on behalf of the Nordic countries, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. WAFUNIF's documents submitted to UNCED, 3–14 June 1992, Rio de Janeiro, highlighted salient recommendations adopted by the International symposium on the challenges to Agenda 21 for international cooperation: Finance, capacity-building and the transfer of environmentally sound technologies for sustainable development, organized by WAFUNIF in cooperation with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and UNCTAD, 4–6 June 1991, Rio de Janeiro;

Under agenda item 10 (a) of the forty-fourth session of the United Nations Subcommission for Human Rights, supported a written petition that the question of impunity be considered by the United Nations Commission for Human Rights, at its February to March 1993 session, Geneva;

Oral and written presentations to the Preparatory Committee for the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, first session, August–September 1993, New York;

Oral and written presentations to the workshop on international migration and sustainable development, organized by the Government of Argentina, the United Nations Development Programme and the International Organization for Migration, November 1993, Buenos Aires. The research paper by WAFUNIF's President was entitled "Addressing the reverse transfer of technology: A critical strategic aspect of the problematique of international migration and sustainable and shared development";

United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, China, September 1995;

United Nations Commission on Human Rights, fifty-eighth session, Geneva, 21 October–8 November 1996;

Special session of the General Assembly to review and appraise the implementation of Agenda 21, New York, 23–27 June 1997;

Participation in the regular briefings and annual conferences organized by the United Nations Department of Public Information (DPI) for non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

During the period under review, WAFUNIF continued to expand and strengthen its close cooperative links with various agencies and organizations of the United Nations system. For example, as part of its joint commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the United Nations and the tenth anniversary of the International Youth Year, WAFUNIF planned and implemented, with the cooperation of several United Nations bodies, three special activities. A commemorative journal issued on this historic occasion highlighted: the magnitude, over the decades, of the United Nations system's training activities and their responsiveness to the needs of United Nations Member States; the multiple beneficial effects derived from this training because recipients went forward through professional activities at all levels to promote the goals and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations; and WAFUNIF's accomplishments during its 17 years of service to the United Nations system and its future plans. Substantive contribution to the journal was received from more than 21 United Nations agencies and organizations. The second activity was a special commemorative ceremony, held at United Nations Headquarters, New York, on 20 October 1995, at which WAFUNIF honoured the President of Finland and the Secretary-General of the United Nations, as well as several other eminent former United Nations internes and international civil servants for their meritorious service to the United Nations and demonstrated commitment to the principles and objectives embodied in the Charter. From 18 to 19 October 1995, WAFUNIF convened, also at United Nations Headquarters, the international symposium, Strengthening capacities for peace and development: Is the United Nations system prepared to meet the challenges of the twenty-first century? The symposium was organized in cooperation with the United Nations Office for Human Resources Management United Nations Headquarters Internship Programme; the United Nations Development Programme Special Unit for Technical Cooperation Among Developing Countries, and the International Labour Organization Liaison Office with the United Nations , with assistance from the United Nations Department for Development Support and Management Services. The symposium was attended by approximately 65 participants representing United Nations Member States, agencies and organizations and other international organizations, as well as representatives of WAFUNIF, current internes and fellows of the United Nations system, other non-governmental organizations, universities, trade unions, industries and professional groups, as well as the media. A message from the Secretary-General was read on his behalf by the Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser to the Secretary-General, himself a former United Nations intern. An Agenda for Peace and An Agenda for Development, which were being elaborated by the United Nations Secretary-General and the General Assembly, were cornerstones of the symposium's deliberations. The symposium concluded with the adoption of conclusions and recommendations by its participants. At the request of the symposium's participants, the executive summary of the symposium, which was subsequently endorsed by the

WAFUNIF Assembly at its eleventh session, held 9–10 September 1996, in New York, was forwarded to the Secretary-General by WAFUNIF's President with the hopes that the Secretary-General and United Nations Member States will find the ideas contained therein useful at this critical state in history as the United Nations strives to respond to the challenges, opportunities, and priorities presented by the twenty-first century and changing contexts. During the period under review, WAFUNIF initiated measures to implement relevant recommendations adopted by the symposium whose participants were of the opinion that because of its essential nature, WAFUNIF has a unique opportunity and responsibility in its special relation with the United Nations to maintain a universal network to promote and safeguard the ideals and efforts of the United Nations system. Consequently, a more active role of the WAFUNIF membership is required, together with the corresponding resources. A forum entitled, Beyond Cairo and Copenhagen: Empowering disabled children and youth: The role of the United Nations system, was organized by WAFUNIF, on 24 June 1994, as the United Nations, with guest speakers from the United Nations Secretariat and an internationally renowned ophthalmologist who, *inter alia,* specializes in environmental causes of visual disabilities in children. WAFUNIF also disseminated a number of resolutions and publications, on children and the disabled, of the United Nations and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

During the period under review, WAFUNIF continued its research activities in the area of science and technology for development and peace. In accordance with the mandates of the WAFUNIF Assembly, research focused on salient issues of endogenous capacity- and capability-building; the relationship between immigration and development; scientific and technological application to the eradication of poverty; the social implications of frontier technologies such as biotechnology and microelectronics; the full and equal participation of women in scientific educations, pursuits and access to the fruits of scientific discoveries and technological application; and the role of training delivery systems — including internships, fellowships, workshops, seminars and study groups of the United Nations system for building up the scientific, technological and managerial base of developing countries, and their young nationals, to access and manage environmentally sound technologies for development.

12. World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts

(Special consultative status granted 1947)

Introduction

The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS), the world's largest voluntary organization for girls and young women, was formed in 1928 and currently has member organizations in 136 countries worldwide with over 10 million individual members. The regional geographical distribution of the member organizations is 27 in Africa, 12 in the Arab region, 34 in Europe, 27 in the Asia-Pacific region and 36 in the Western Hemisphere. The membership figure for 1993 was 128 member organizations with nearly 9 million individual members. WAGGGS membership is voluntary and open to all girls and young women without distinction of creed, race, nationality or any other circumstance. WAGGGS mission is to enable girls and young women to develop their fullest potential as responsible citizens of the world.

WAGGGS objectives are:

To promote, throughout the world, unity of purpose and common understanding based on the fundamental principles of the Girl Guide/Girl Scout movement;

To provide girls and young women with opportunities for self-training in the development of character, responsible citizenship and service in their own and world communities;

To encourage friendship among girls and young women of all nations within countries and worldwide.

WAGGGS participation at the Economic and Social Council and other United Nations events

WAGGGS has participated in numerous Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and United Nations events since January 1994. A comprehensive list is available from the World Bureau. The following are just a few examples:

March 1998, Vienna: forty-first session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;

March 1998, New York: forty-third session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women;

February 1998, Dakar: World Health Organization/Regional Office for Africa, meeting with non-governmental organizations;

February 1998, New York: thirty-sixth session of the Commission for Social Development;

February 1998, New York: Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations board meeting;

January–February 1998, New York: eighteenth session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women;

January 1998, Geneva: World Health Organization Assembly and one hundred and first session of the WHO Executive Board;

November 1997, Rome: twenty-ninth session of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Conference and one hundred and thirteenth session of the FAO Council;

November 1997, Geneva: twentieth General Assembly of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations;

October–November 1997, Paris: twenty-ninth session of the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

October 1997, Oslo: International Conference on Child Labour;

October 1997, Paris: Consultative meeting with NGOs concerned with girls, women and gender equality;

Ongoing: Preparatory Committee meetings of the World Youth Forum of the United Nations system;

September 1997, Santiago: UNESCO collective consultation on youth;

June 1997, New York: Advisory group meeting of the NGO Committee on UNICEF;

June 1997, Seoul: United Nations Environment Programme Global Youth Forum;

April 1997, Rome: fourteenth session of the Committee on Agriculture;

April 1997, Rome: twenty-third session of the Committee on World Food Security;

November 1996, Rome: International Youth Consultation of the World Food Summit;

October 1995, New York: special session of the fiftieth United Nations General Assembly on the occasion of the anniversary of International Youth Year;

September 1995, Beijing: Fourth World Conference on Women;

September 1995, Huairou, China: NGO Forum on Women '95;

March 1995, Copenhagen: World Summit for Social Development, Youth consultation and Non-Governmental Organization Forum;

September 1994, Cairo: Youth consultation of the International Conference on Population and Development.

In November 1997, WAGGGS was elected as a member of the Board of the Conference of non-governmental organizations and elected to a vice-presidency position on the Board in February 1998.

WAGGGS has endorsed a minimum of 19 statements and declarations since January 1994. The following are a few examples:

November 1997: United Kingdom's ban on landmines and of a United Nations convention banning them globally;

March 1997: NGO declaration on the occasion of the International Day against Racism and Racial Discrimination;

October 1996: Comments of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts concerning "the functioning of the mechanisms for collective consultation between the Director-General of UNESCO and the non-governmental international organizations which maintain relations with UNESCO";

March 1996: At the fortieth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, New York, a statement regarding: violence against women and the peace process; full participation of women in the power structure and decision-making;

April 1995: NGO statement on monitoring of international plans and programmes of action of the International Youth Year;

January 1995: Joint NGO statement on the occasion of the meeting of the Fourth World NGO Committee at the United Nations;

March 1994: Resolution on the international trafficking of children's organs;

March 1994: "Young Women — Silence — Susceptibility and the HIV Epidemic", NGO statement to the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, New York.

Cooperation with United Nations programmes and bodies and the specialized agencies

WAGGGS has a team of representatives at the United Nations in each of the six major United Nations cities, i.e. New York, Nairobi, Paris, Rome, Vienna and Geneva. The representatives work closely with their local United Nations offices and participate in United Nations events that are of relevance/importance to WAGGGS. The representatives also serve on the various NGO committees and working groups in their cities. The areas in which the teams are most active include:

Geneva

Convention on the Rights of the Child sub-groups on child labour, education, focal point on sexual exploitation; Commission on the Status of Women sub-groups on nutrition, women and peace, women and refugees (two working groups on the Great Lakes region and Afghanistan); women's rights; women and employment, women and nutrition, including the girl child; human rights; World Health Organization; International Labour Organization (including the global march against child labour); and the Board of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations.

Nairobi

United Nations Environment Programme headquarters and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat).

New York

NGO working group on the girl child of the UNICEF/NGO Committee; Commission on the Status of Women task groups on women and human rights, women and armed conflict; Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women; United Nations Youth Unit/Department of Economic and Social Affairs; Department of Public Information; Beijing Conference follow-up/implementation of the Platform for Action; and the Board of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations.

Paris (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization)

Girls, women and gender equality; youth; youth forum task force; girl child; literacy; education; science and technology for women; human rights; environment.

Rome

Departments/Divisions of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, i.e. food and nutrition; food security; agriculture; rural women/women in development/ fisheries.

Vienna

NGO committees on women, peace, crime prevention, narcotic drugs, development, family and the Board of the Conference on Non-Governmental Organizations.

On an international scale

WAGGGS has cooperated between 1993 and 1996 with UNHCR in projects in refugee camps. The WAGGGS/FAO Nutrition Award was launched in 1996: the certificate and medal are awarded to WAGGGS member organizations that have carried out a nutrition project following set guidelines. In 1996 several WAGGGS youth members entered the UNFPA international youth essay contest and a couple of them earned a mention in the UNFPA's book of winning entries. UNFPA has granted funding for the health of adolescent refugees project (HARP). This is a joint WAGGGS/Family Health International project in Egypt, Uganda and Zambia from 1997 to 1999. In November 1997, a member of the Guyana Girl Guides Association was awarded the UNESCO Aristotle Silver Medal for her commitment to the ideals of UNESCO.

13. World Federation for Mental Health

(Special consultative status granted 1963)

Statement of the aims of the World Federation for Mental Health

The World Federation for Mental Health (WFMH), celebrating its fiftieth anniversary this year, was founded in London in 1948. It is the world's only international, non-governmental, voluntary mental health association with an ecumenical membership, including professionals, citizen-volunteers and, since 1983, consumers (users) of mental health services. Its goals are: to heighten public awareness of the importance of mental health; to promote mental health and optimal functioning; to prevent mental, neurological and psychosocial disorders; to improve the care and treatment of those with mental, neurological and psychosocial disorders. WFMH is incorporated in the United States. It has

membership in more than 100 countries through its 108 international and national voting member organizations, 87 non-voting organizational members and 1,908 individual members. It is accredited as an official consultant on mental health to the ECOSOC, WHO, PAHO, UNESCO, UNHCR, UNICEF and ILO.

Highlights of the quadrennial report to the Economic and Social Council 1990–1993

WFMH participated in the negotiations leading to the resolution on the protection of persons with mental illness and the improvement of mental health care, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 17 December 1991 (resolution 46/119). The Secretary-General of WFMH and the Chair of its International Committee on Refugees and Other Migrants met with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, at Geneva on 14 October 1992, to discuss mental health issues affecting refugees. Later an agreement on consultation was signed with the High Commissioner (June 1993). In 1993, UNESCO, in conjunction with WFMH and the International Social Science Council, published "Biomedical Technology and Human Rights", an examination of ethical problems authored by the Secretary-General of WFMH.

Selected activities of the World Federation of Mental Health, 1994–1997

1994

The WFMH representative in Geneva attended the fiftieth session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights (31 January–11 March 1994); the March meeting in Beijing of the WHO global coordination in mental health programme; the April meeting in Geneva of the United Nations Committee against Torture; and WHO's forty-seventh World Health Assembly, Geneva, May 1994 (where he answered questions at one of the two commissions of the Assembly in his capacity as chairman of the WHO Human Rights Group). A representative attended the NGO Forum for the United Nations International Conference on Population and Development (Cairo, Egypt, 5–13 September 1994), and WFMH was on the Forum's steering committee. The main representative at the United Nations in New York served as the President and chair of the planning committee for the forty-seventh annual DPI/NGO conference (20–22 September 1994).

1995

WHO co-sponsored WFMH's biennial World Congress (Dublin, 13–18 August). WFMH supported efforts to have women's mental health included in the health sections of the Platform for Action of the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women. A group of WFMH representatives, including the organization's President, attended the NGO Forum (Huairou, China, 30 August–8 September 1995) and the official United Nations Conference (Beijing, 4–15 September 1995). Prior to the Conference, WFMH representatives at United Nations Headquarters participated in NGO planning for the Forum in 1993 and 1994, particularly at the NGO consultation on women (New York, 13–14 March 1995). A WFMH representative served as secretary of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women in both 1993 and 1994. Two WFMH representatives gave papers at the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (Cairo, 29 April–8 May 1994). Additionally, a representative at United Nations Headquarters participated in planning for this meeting. In preparation for the United Nations Habitat II conference in 1996, the WFMH representative to the Department of Public Information and the NGO Committee on Ageing organized two preparatory conferences, at United Nations Headquarters (10–11 January 1995) and in Santiago (27–30 September 1995).

1996

WHO and the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) co-sponsored a meeting of WFMH's Committee of International Women Leaders for Mental Health at PAHO headquarters to examine initiatives for improved mental health care in Latin America (Washington, D.C., 28 September). Health ministers at their annual PAHO meeting attended, as did eight first ladies of Latin American countries; 25 countries were represented. WFMH collaborated with other NGOs over several years to support the creation of a new Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council Committee on Mental Health at United Nations Headquarters. The new NGO Committee was established by a vote of Conference members on 28 May 1996. Following elections on 28 June the WFMH main representative became convenor of the nine-member interim bureau which developed the structure and mission of the Committee, and she was later elected as the Committee's first chairperson. One of this group's early activities was to arrange a briefing for NGOs at the United Nations on "Women and mental health" (10 October) to mark a WFMH annual event, World Mental Health Day, which is co-sponsored by WHO. WFMH representatives were involved in the meetings and caucuses associated with the official preparatory meeting for the Habitat II Conference (New

York, 6–16 February 1996). A WFMH representative attended the Habitat II Conference (Istanbul, Turkey, 2–15 June), where she was an advocate for the special needs of the homeless mentally ill. Another representative participated in the planning of the forty-ninth annual Department of Public Information Conference, coordinating the event's 21 discussion groups (New York, 10–12 September). In Geneva, the WFMH representative attended the annual session of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities of the Commission on Human Rights (5–30 September). To support a new WHO global initiative on the primary prevention of substance abuse, the WFMH President-elect and the regional Vice-President for the eastern Mediterranean attended an organizational meeting in Geneva (24 April). At the start of another new WHO programme, Nations for Mental Health, the Federation's President and one of its Board members were invited by the WHO Mental Health Division to participate in a planning meeting (Hong Kong, 25–26 October 1996). Three representatives attended the World Congress Against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children co-sponsored by UNICEF (Stockholm, 27–31 August), and circulated a WFMH resolution on the subject. UNESCO hosted a conference co-sponsored by WFMH on Ethics and psyche in Paris (10–11 October), where the WFMH Secretary-General was a speaker.

1997

WHO co-sponsored WFMH's biennial World Congress (Lahti, Finland, 6–11 July) and a special meeting of the WFMH International Committee of Women Leaders for Mental Health (Helsinki, 11 July) arranged by the Carter Center to support the WHO programme Nations for Mental Health. At United Nations Headquarters, WFMH representatives participated in the year's programme of events arranged by the new NGO Committee on Mental Health, and a number of WFMH members in the New York area became involved with the Committee's work. Representatives took part in preparing recommendations for a resolution on children with disabilities passed by the United Nations Commission on Social Development (25 February–5 March). Representatives were active during the NGO consultation and caucuses associated with the forty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women (March 1997) and participated with other NGOs in presenting formal written statements to the Commission. The representative to the NGO Committee on Human Rights organized a series of panel discussions on human rights topics throughout the year. The representative to the NGO Committee on Aging was engaged in preparations for the United Nations International Year of Older Persons, 1999, and led a preparatory dialogue with NGOs in Tokyo, in March. The representative to the NGO Committee on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice helped to prepare an annotated bibliography in restorative justice, which was forwarded to the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Vienna.

Representatives provided quarterly reports to the WFMH membership on their United Nations activities through the Federation's newsletter and forwarded regular information for Board meetings.

14. World Jurist Association of the World Peace Through Law Center

(Special consultative status)

Introduction: Background of the World Jurist Association

The World Jurist Association of the World Peace through Law Center (WJA) is an international non-governmental, non-profit organization committed to the strengthening and fostering of the rule of law in both the international and national arenas. Since 1963, WJA has worked closely with Heads of State and Government, Ministers of Justice, members of the judiciary, lawyers, law professors and other professionals who share WJA's commitment to world peace.

For more than thirty years WJA has provided a unique and comprehensive forum for the legal professionals of the world to gather and share their experiences and plans for the future. Its mission has been to promote and foster world peace through the development of the rule of law. The founder of WJA believed that the practitioners, scholars and public policy makers needed a place where they, as individuals, could gather to engage in meaningful discourse with their colleagues around the world. For this reason the WJA is an organization of individuals, not organizations or Governments. Members of WJA gather at yearly regional seminars and biennial conferences to present educational and informational reports on the developments in every area of law. Through publications and meetings, WJA provides current and innovative information on the developments of the field and looks to expose and resolve the obstacles which prevent a peaceful development of democracy and growth.

The World Jurist Association is anxious to further its relationship with the United Nations. It has long since supported the spirit and character of the United Nations. With a limited budget, and an entirely voluntary Board of Governors, the WJA has continued hosting events and publicizing articles which further the work of the United Nations.

Since 1993, when the previous quadrennial report period ended, WJA has expanded its presence in the newly independent States of eastern and central Europe, and in the Middle East. This growth, in addition to a general increase in membership worldwide, has allowed practitioners and scholars in these countries to join in the international dialogue concerning rule of law and world peace. Membership continues to be open to all legal professionals and other interested professionals on an individual basis.

Representatives from various organs and the specialized agencies of the United Nations regularly attend the biennial conferences on the law of the world. In addition to its consultative status, WJA has a publication exchange with the United Nations. The bi-monthly bulletin and the quarterly law journal are delivered to the United Nations in exchange for various United Nations publications.

Finally, whenever possible WJA has participated in various United Nations events and meetings. Each of WJA presidents has been accredited as a representative to the United Nations. Through the President, WJA has informed its members of the current events regarding the United Nations. As these members are leaders of the legal profession around the world, their vast expertise and varying contributions to the work of the United Nations is difficult to enumerate.

WJA believes that several recent seminars and conferences, which it has hosted, have directly or indirectly fostered and furthered the work of various departments and agencies within or affiliated with the United Nations.

Summary of activities, 1990–1993

Conference on the Law of the World: The WJA's Fourteenth Biennial Conference on the Law of the World was held in Beijing (22–27 April 1990), the Fifteenth Conference was held in Barcelona, Spain (6–11 October 1991) and the Sixteenth Conference was hosted in Manila (24–29 October 1993). Under the themes of "Law for World Peace and Development", "Law and the Preservation of Peace", and "Law in a Changing World", respectively, each Conference allowed for approximately 20 panels, with the cooperation of speakers and delegates, to pass a set of recommendations and resolutions that were then passed on to a governing committee, which reviews and acts upon them. The work of these sessions, in the form of resolutions, is distributed to the United Nations and Governments for further action and ratification.

Seminars: In 1992 the WJA planned a seminar to be held at The Hague to examine the European Community and its impact. Although this seminar was cancelled, the programme and workpapers were distributed to the registrants. WJA regretted having to cancel what it considered a timely and significant discussion for the legal profession and therefore it determined to ensure that the interested members of the world community receive the information that was collected from renowned leaders of Europe.

Later in 1992, Jerusalem served as the site for a seminar that focused on international agreements and the Middle East peace process. The delegates were addressed by former Israeli Prime Minister, Yitzhak Rabin and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Shimon Peres.

During 7 to 10 February 1993, Cairo served as the site for a seminar addressing the theme "Economic and environmental challenges confronting the Mediterranean region". Here the keynote address was delivered by Kamal El Magd, former Egyptian Minister for Information and Vice-President of the Administrative Tribunal of the World Bank.

One of the highlights of the activities of WJA during the 1990 to 1993 period was the establishment of permanent relations between WJA and the Vatican. Archbishop Jean-Louis Tauran, Vatican Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Lucio Ghia, then WJA first Vice-President, signed an accord on 3 June 1993.

Summary of activities, 1994–1997

Conferences on the Law of the World: The Seventeenth Biennial Conference on the Law of the World was held in Montreal, Ottawa and Quebec City, Canada. The Conference celebrated the WJA's involvement with the United Nations by opening with a celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations. The Conference called upon all Governments and all people to reaffirm the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and to put them into practice. The work of the war crimes tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda, the conclusion of the Uruguay Round and establishment of the World Trade Organization, and the coming into force of the 1982 Convention on the Law of the Sea were highlighted during this celebration.

The Conference went on to express its support of the promotion of the United Nations Decade of International Law and urged the implementation of the action plans of the 1993 Vienna Conference on Human Rights, the 1994 Cairo International Conference on Population and Development, the 1995 Copenhagen World Summit for Social Development and the action plan of the Fourth World Conference on Women. States were urged to resolve disputes by peaceful means as envisaged by Chapter VI of the Charter of the United Nations and to accept the compulsory jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice under Article 36 of the Statute of the Court.

This celebration and focus on the United Nations was continued at the Eighteenth Conference, held in Doha, Qatar from 21 to 26 September 1997. Here the formation of a permanent international criminal court was the focus of one entire panel session. The Conference urged all Governments to join forces in the creation of this court at the 1998 diplomatic conference in Rome and to expeditiously ratify the treaty once drafted. Once again nations were urged to develop their laws and policies in compliance with the United Nations and its laws.

Seminars: In 1994, WJA successfully hosted an informative seminar, in Washington D.C., on the implementation of the North American Free Trade Agreement and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. Participants from Italy, the Philippines, the Virgin Islands, Israel, Egypt, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Venezuela, Mexico, Canada and the United States of America attended this comprehensive overview and in-depth analysis on these important trade agreements.

Later in 1994, WJA conducted a symposium, in Rome, entitled "The Family on the Eve of the Year 2000: Legal Problems". This symposium was held in conjunction with the International Year of the Family proclaimed by the United Nations. The topics discussed included: the definition of the family in international public law; the comparative aspects of adoptive filiation; the nuclearization of the American family and its effect on children; and legal considerations and the new techniques of procreation.

The World Association of Law Professors, an active part of WJA, hosted two seminars in the later part of 1994 and early 1995. These highly rated seminars, held in the Philippines, were part of the WJA's continued effort to further legal education.

In 1996, WJA led an international delegation to Potsdam, Germany, to discuss legal and economic conditions and investment opportunities in the new *Länder*.

In January 1997, WJA began a series of seminars focusing on the judiciary and its role in law and policy-making. The first seminar was held in Cape Town, South Africa, where the theme was "The Role of the Judiciary in a Changing Africa". Asia will be the focus in 1999.

In April 1997, WJA, in conjunction with the International Legal Studies Program at the University of Denver College of Law, the American Society of International Law and the 30th annual Regional Conference presented "The Celebration of 50 Years of the International Court of Justice: The Role of Law and Justice". The keynote address was delivered by ICJ Judge C. G. Weermantry.

In addition to these events, hosted by WJA, the President has represented WJA at various United Nations activities. The President, Lucio Ghia joined approximately 400 guests at the swearing in of the 21 justices of the new International Maritime Court on 18 October 1996, in Hamburg, Germany. The justices were sworn in by United Nations Secretary-General, Boutros Boutros-Ghali. President Ghia also reported to the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Vienna in early 1997. At the Commission he outlined a proposal for WJA to work closely with the Commission in support of peacekeeping missions and establishing the rule of law in troubled nations.

Finally, in an effort to inform the world legal professionals of the ever changing field of international law, WJA, through its newsletter, *The World Jurist*, regularly includes a column which reviews the recent activities of the International Court of Justice. Over the next several years, WJA hopes to establish a permanent representative to the United Nations in New York. In this manner, WJA will be better able to participate and assist the United Nations in its various events.

Below is a partial list of publications available through WJA, which specifically comment on the work of the United Nations. These articles were distributed worldwide to both active members and honorary members who are interested in the work of WJA. The United Nations, through a publications exchange with WJA, received copies of the following publications for its use.

Lucio Ghia, *Wings of Justice* (1997).

Charles S. Rhyne, *Working for Justice in America and Justice in the World* (1995).

"Law in the Global Community: United Nations hosts WJA representatives", *The World Jurist*, Vol. 32, No. 4, July/August 1995.

"The United Nations", *The World Jurist*, Vol. 32, No. 4 (July/August 1995).

Subhash C. Birla, "Humanitarian intervention/Aid", *Work paper for 17th Biennial Conference on the Law of the World* (August 1995).

William R. Slomanson, "United Nations Decade of International Law: A Midterm Review for the World Jurist Association", *Work paper for the 17th Biennial Conference on the Law of the World* (August 1995).

Luis Eduardo Boffi Carri Perez, "La No Inergencia en los Asuntos de los Estados Como Limite al Derecho de Intervencion en la Carta de las Naciones Unidas", *Work paper for the 17th Biennial Conference on the Law of the World* (August 1995).

Prof. Ved P. Nanda, "Human Rights are Still Under Attack", *The World Jurist*, Vol. 32, No. 1, (January/February 1995).

"The Family on the Eve of the Year 2000: Legal Problems", *The World Jurist*, Vol. 31, No. 5 (September/October 1994).

Prof. Ved. P. Nanda, "The Changing Challenge of Peacekeeping", *The World Jurist*, Vol. 31, No. 5 (September/October 1994).

"Dr. Meir Gabay Elected to UN Administrative Tribunal", *The World Jurist*, Vol. 31, No. 4 (July/August 1994).

Prof. Ved. P. Nanda, "Strains in Emerging U.S. — U.N. Partnership", *The World Jurist*, Vol. 31, No. 3 (May/June 1994).

Numerous other articles and workpapers have been published over the past 35 years. Each Conference on the Law of the World has included panels and/or plenary sessions which examine the United Nations in some manner.

The World Jurist, published by WJA, includes articles which promote and publicize various United Nations activities, including peacekeeping efforts, humanitarian intervention/aid policies, relationships with various member States and the effect on international law. Workpapers at the 17th Biennial Conference on the Law of the World celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations by reviewing its work over the past 50 years and discussing prospects for the next 50 years.